

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A phase device for providing a phase difference between an inner radius portion and an outer radius portion of a light beam which is emitted from a light source is provided  
5 in an optical path between the light source of an optical pickup apparatus and an objective lens. The light beam to which the phase difference has been provided is converged by the objective lens and irradiated to an optical disc.

An interference of an inner radius portion and an outer  
10 radius portion of the returning light beam caused when the light beam is diffracted by the optical disc with  $\pm 1$  primary diffracted light caused by the diffraction is suppressed. Therefore, an intensity fluctuation of the returning light beam caused by the interference is suppressed. A spherical  
15 aberration error showing a thickness error of the optical disc and a focusing error having a high linearity can be detected with high precision on the basis of the returning light. A numerical aperture of the objective lens, consequently, can be increased, high density information recording and information reproduction can be performed,  
20 and further, an optical pickup apparatus and an information recording and/or reproducing apparatus each having compatibility are realized.